

**To:** Harris-Young, Dawn[Harris-Young.Dawn@epa.gov]  
**Cc:** Purchia, Liz[Purchia.Liz@epa.gov]; Reynolds, Thomas[Reynolds.Thomas@epa.gov]; Grantham, Nancy[Grantham.Nancy@epa.gov]; Gray, David[gray.david@epa.gov]; Zito, Kelly[ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV]; Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]; Lincoln, Larry[Lincoln.Larry@epa.gov]; Pinkney, James[Pinkney.James@epa.gov]; EOC Public Information[EOC\_Public\_Information@epa.gov]  
**From:** Harrison, Melissa  
**Sent:** Thur 8/20/2015 8:34:34 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Georgia spill story-please read

Team-I reached out to the reporter writing for the watchdog site. She has follow up questions.

Dawn-will you take the lead on gathering the responses?

I have a copy of a letter that states the EPA gave a brownfield grant to GA for this project.

Can you please answer these questions:

- 1 .How much was the grant and date was it was awarded?
2. Why would the dirt be stirred up and now placed in an even more hazardous state prior to final determination as to whether you are going to transport or pave over? (Dec. 16)
3. Dr. Lewis conducted numerous tests both on the soil and in the water, before and after the water main broke. Are you saying these tests are wrong?
4. The EPA is mandated under the Clean Water Act to monitor projects where lead would be released into waterways (see link to EPA web site in story). What did the EPA monitoring entail?
5. Were the workers given any type of protective clothing at this site?
6. How many gallons spilled from the broken water main?
7. Were any residents in the state of GA contacted regarding the spill? If not, why not?

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From: Harrison, Melissa  
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 2:22 PM  
To: Harris-Young, Dawn  
Cc: Purchia, Liz; Reynolds, Thomas; Grantham, Nancy; Gray, David; Zito, Kelly; Smith, Paula; Lincoln, Larry; Pinkney, James; EOC Public Information  
Subject: Re: Georgia spill story-please read

Thanks to Dawn for all your help! Below is the response she just sent me. Let's be prepared to utilize this info if asked. Please let me know if you start to hear more or get questions regarding this site or others.

Hi Melissa,

This is what I have at this time. I am also trying to get copies of the four response letters mentioned below.

Dawn

The former, Mary Leila Cotton Mill in Greensboro, Georgia is being redeveloped into residential use. It will become the historic district's Mary-Leila Lofts residential community after the cleanup activities are

conducted under the State Brownfields program. The Mayor Glenn Wright and representatives from city council, Downtown Development Authority, the Greene County Chamber and the Georgia Initiative for Community Housing are all supportive of the project, which is now under construction.

EPA is not involved in this project, but the Brownfields program has reviewed the situation as a result of preparing responses to four letters that were sent to Heather in the past 10 months. Allegations by Mr. Lewis and an attorney Mr. David Kopp were determined to be unfounded in a civil court case along with statements in the letters to EPA which were found to be suspicious. GA EPD has conducted visits to the property and found everything to be in order and they also found Mr. Lewis's allegations unfounded.

Numerous environmental protection measures have been put in place to protect the adjacent creek and groundwater. The developers are working with Geotechnical & Environmental Consultants. The loft apartment community, which will open in 2016, will provide 71 units of affordable housing for families earning between \$15,000 and \$30,000 per year. The one-, two- and three-bedroom units will feature modern appliances, washers and dryers and have access to a community center, computer room, playground and gazebo.

The property's signature feature is the old water tower that can be seen from many parts of the city. Construction crews recently gave it a bright new look, hand-scraping old lead-based paint and painting the cleaned surface with a distinctive rust and light teal color to reflect the sky.

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> On Aug 20, 2015, at 12:42 PM, Harris-Young, Dawn <Harris-Young.Dawn@epa.gov> wrote:  
>  
> Working on it and will try to get it in 2 hours.  
>  
> -----Original Message-----  
> From: Harrison, Melissa  
> Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 12:33 PM  
> To: Purchia, Liz; Reynolds, Thomas; Grantham, Nancy; Gray, David; Zito, Kelly; Smith, Paula; Lincoln, Larry; Pinkney, James; EOC Public Information  
> Cc: Harris-Young, Dawn  
> Subject: Re: Georgia spill story-please read  
>  
> +Dawn since Larry is out of the office.  
>  
> Melissa Harrison  
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>  
>  
>> On Aug 20, 2015, at 12:32 PM, Harrison, Melissa <Harrison.Melissa@epa.gov> wrote:  
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>> Team-this story is starting to percolate in the media. We need to be prepared to answer questions. It may also be helpful to add this to the FAQs on the GKM website. Let's stay ahead of this narrative.  
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>> R4-could you provide some background info on this site within the next two hours? Deadline 2:30 EST.

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>> <http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2015/08/20/before-colorado-mine-disaster-epa-project-caused-spill-in-georgia/>

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